



Tempe survey reveals higher satisfaction

City of Tempe residents have voiced positive feelings and constructive feedback about the services, programs and facilities provided in their community.

More than 800 residents weighed in on questions dealing with water service, parks, trash collection, public safety and more. Their ratings give the City of Tempe important information about how well it is providing services. In most areas, Tempe residents rated the city higher in 2008 than in 2007.

Kansas-based ETC Institute conducted the survey and compared Tempe to its database of cities across the country. Tempe ranked in the top five percent of cities nationally when it came to the satisfaction of residents. Survey respondents expressed overall satisfaction levels of 92 percent – that's 34 percent above the national average.

Highlights of the 2008 survey include:

- Satisfaction with city water services rated 21 percent above the national average (91 percent in Tempe vs. 70 percent in U.S.)
- Satisfaction with the condition of city streets rated 25 percent above the national average (81 percent in Tempe vs. 56 percent in U.S.)
- Satisfaction with enforcement of traffic laws rated 19 percent above the national average (71 percent in Tempe vs. 52 percent in U.S.)

Complete survey results are available at www.tempe.gov/2008residentsurvey.



Tourism, sports, culture and a spirit of service: recipe for a stronger Tempe

By Tempe City Councilmember Mark Mitchell

Tempe enjoys a bustling recreation and cultural scene, along with a growing national reputation as a first-class place for play, enrichment and business.

As chair of the Sports, Recreation, Arts and Cultural Development Committee, my aim is to foster opportunities for Tempe in the areas of sports and recreation programs and facilities, arts and cultural programs, and human service needs. Councilmember Onnie Shekerjian serves with me and we are actively pursuing our committee's goals.

Before I describe future plans, let me recap where we have been. We enjoyed another incredible season of spring training at Diablo Stadium with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. The seats were packed, the days were sunny and the crowds soaked it all in.

A few months back, we witnessed another Insight Bowl at Sun Devil Stadium, with the highest attendance the game has enjoyed since coming to the Valley! We had another successful Rock and Roll Marathon. We threw two major parties with the Insight Fiesta Bowl Block Party and Destination Tempe, the light rail grand opening.

Since opening in September 2007, the Tempe Center for the Arts continues to be a popular draw for cultural, business and personal events. There were 59 events at the facility in February alone and TCA staff members are currently booking events through 2011. We need to ensure that this resource stays a central part of Tempe's culture.

Moving forward, our committee is focused on encouraging hotel projects because of the boost they give our community in economic health and, thereby, in quality of life. For the 2007-08 fiscal year, the Tempe Convention and Visitors Bureau estimated that every \$1 of room tax they invested in marketing and pursuing convention bookings yielded \$34 for Tempe in the money spent by visitors while they were here.

Proposals are due to the city this spring for a 52-acre site west of Tempe Town Lake, where Tempe would like a company to build and operate tournament-quality indoor and outdoor amateur sports facilities. Tournament players and their families would inject significant revenue to the city in hotel room nights, and retail and restaurant spending.

Among several other projects, we also will be monitoring the progress of renovations at the Tempe Public Library and Tempe Historical Museum, which provide unsurpassed learning and cultural opportunities for our community.

This spring, we are working with the National League of Cities and the Tempe Community Council to distribute prescription drug cards to Tempe residents without insurance or prescription drug benefits. The cards, which will be accepted at all pharmacies, will ensure customers receive the lowest prices for prescriptions. Call 480-858-2300 for more information about the program.

The Sports, Recreation, Arts and Cultural Development Council Committee's work plan is available at www.tempe.gov/clerk/CouncilCommittees.htm. Please feel free to call me anytime at 480-350-8793, or via e-mail at mark_mitchell@tempe.gov with any ideas. Thank you for your support as we move forward in these important areas.

Register for summer recreation and arts classes

Beginning April 24, check out the array of Tempe summer recreation and arts classes at www.tempe.gov/brochure. Led by experienced and enthusiastic instructors, classes are available at many locations throughout Tempe at convenient times and affordable prices. Tempe residents can begin registration April 27 and non-residents can register beginning May 4. Registration is easy: online with any major credit card any time of day or night, or via mail, fax or in-person. General information is available at 480-350-5200.



Tempe Opportunities is "going green"!

Tempe Opportunities, the brochure of city recreation and arts classes, will no longer be mailed to every Tempe household beginning this fall. The

change in delivery will help reduce waste and costs.

Residents still will be able to pick up hard copies at many city facilities and access the brochure online at www.tempe.gov/brochure. Each time a new issue is ready, an e-mail will be sent to members of a Tempe Opportunities distribution list, letting them know when the brochure will be available online. To sign up for the electronic distribution list, visit www.tempe.gov/brochure and click the "Going Green" button.

Those who wish to continue receiving the brochure via the U.S. Postal Service can register by providing their name and address by calling 480-350-5315 or by e-mail at brochure@tempe.gov.

Gene Autry Courage Awards

Three remarkable individuals from the world of sports were recognized March 9 at the 16th annual Courage Awards, held at The Buttes Resort. Each year, outstanding men and women who have conquered disabilities or hardships are honored at a ceremony that raises money for local charities. The 2009 award recipients are:

Doug Davis, the Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher, who faced thyroid cancer in 2008. Davis made a full and speedy recovery to get back to the life and the sport he loves.

Jeff Skiba, a Paralympic gold medal-winning high jumper, who has devoted himself to shattering perceived limitations. Skiba's left leg was removed below the knee when he was 10 months old because he was born without a fibula.

Jessica Long, who is earning top honors in the pool and garnering world recognition at the age of just 17. It was necessary to amputate both legs below the knee when she was 13 months old because she was born without the major bones in her legs, including fibulas and ankles.

For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/courageawards.

Tempe helps residents eliminate weeds

Tempe has completed weed spraying in the city's alleys as a measure to eliminate the vegetation that quickly grows after winter rains. Now the city is asking residents and property owners to pull or cut down the weeds in their yards and on their sides of alleys.

Weeds are an eyesore and a fire hazard. The City of Tempe has codes that require residents and property owners to maintain their properties free from weeds or nuisances that may result in visual blight, fire or safety hazards, and neighborhood or economic deterioration. This includes grass or weeds over 12 inches tall, vegetation growing through gravel, or dead grass, weeds or other vegetation that may create a fire hazard. Residents also are required to maintain the alley spaces behind their homes from the property boundary to the middle of the alley.

For more information, call the Neighborhood Enhancement Division at 480-350-8372 or visit www.tempe.gov/codecompliance, or call Street Maintenance in the Public Works Department at 480-350-8229.

Watch kids around water

With temperatures rising, cooling off in the water is tempting to everyone, including children. The City of Tempe offers these tips for keeping your loved ones safe from drowning, one of the leading causes of death for children under the age of four in Arizona:

- Never leave a child unattended in or near any body of water. This includes pools, bathtubs, buckets, toilets, hot tubs, ponds and lakes.
- Install barriers around your pool and spa but don't let them give you a false sense of security. Nothing can take the place of adult supervision.
- Check placement of doggie doors. Be sure they do not lead to the pool area.
- Learn how to administer CPR and other lifesaving techniques.

In case of an emergency, pull the person out of the water, call 9-1-1 immediately and begin CPR. The 9-1-1 operator will assist you with CPR instructions until help arrives. For more information, call Tempe Fire Prevention at 480-858-7230.

View Tempe Today online
Tempe.gov/tempetoday

Send the kids to camp in Tempe this summer!

Tempe's selection of sports and enrichment camps offer fun and active ways for children to spend the summer. All of the city's camps are listed at www.tempe.gov/rec or get more information by calling 480-350-5200.

Sports

Indoor Soccer Camp – Four-day camps for soccer players ages 5-10. Held at Kiwanis Recreation Center. \$95 per camp.

Marcos de Niza and Corona del Sol Girl's Volleyball Camps – Four-day camps for 4th through 12th graders, including a competition camp for high school girls with previous playing experience. \$95 per camp.

Small Ball Hoops – A non-competitive instructional program for girls and boys in kindergarten through 4th grade. League meets two evenings per week during two separate month-long sessions in June and July. \$71.50 per session.

Summer Rec Hoops – Eight-week league for 5th through 8th grade boys and girls. Teams focus on participation, skill development and friendly competition. Games are held weekly. Parents are encouraged to coach. \$71.50.

Summer Tennis Camps – Four- and five-day instructional tennis camps at Kiwanis Recreation Center for all skill levels, ages 7-15. Camp includes a daily snack break, T-shirt, team competition and match play. \$75-\$95 per week, \$35 per day. Contact Larry Funk at 480-350-5721 to enroll.

Kid Zone

Kid Zone Enrichment programs are held weekdays, May 27-July 31, from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Children should bring non-perishable lunches and beverages daily. Morning and afternoon snacks will be provided.

Registration begins April 4, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Social Services office, 3500 S. Rural Road. Call 480-350-5400 for rates.

Kid Zone Summer Program – For children entering 1st through 6th grades this fall. Held at Fuller, Hudson and Norte schools.

Middle School Kid Zone – For children entering 6th through 8th grades. This new program is held at Evans School.

Kid Zone Sports Camps – For children entering 2nd through 6th grades. This new camp will emphasize skill building in a variety of sports. Held at Fees Middle School.

Cultural camps

Call 480-350-5287 or visit www.tempe.gov/arts for more information on these camps:

Young Artists Studio – Children ages 7-12 will learn art techniques, studio skills and terminology by studying art history and through hands-on creation. Two four-week sessions run Monday through Thursday, 1-5 p.m., and culminate with an exhibition. \$180 per session. Held at Edna Vihel Center for the Arts.

Young Actors Theatre – Actors ages 7-12 will develop performance skills and learn about makeup, costumes, props and theatre design. The six-week camp runs Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. \$250. Held at Edna Vihel Center for the Arts.



Tempe Hardware Building

Designed by James Miller Creighton, the most prominent architect in territorial Arizona, the Tempe Hardware Building was completed in 1899. This three-story commercial structure is the only one of its kind surviving in Maricopa County. Originally, the second floor of the building served as meeting space for the International Order of Odd Fellows, an active fraternal organization in the early 20th century. The first and third floors were leased as retail space and offices.

The building has long been a focal point of commercial, social, political and religious life in Tempe. Over the years it has housed the Mill Avenue Theatre, the Mill Avenue Merchants Association, the Tempe Irrigating Canal Company offices, a branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, the Fine Arts Center of Tempe and a company of the Arizona National Guard. In 1908, it even housed Tempe High School before the first high school was completed.

Serving as a community gathering place, the building provided entertainment and meeting space to many organizations. The second floor ballroom functioned as a dance space for many years under the name "Cosmopolitan Hall."

Politically, the building is significant because it housed the City Council before the first City Hall was built. A vault was installed on each floor during the Council's tenure in the building. Over the years many political rallies and speeches were held there.

The Tempe Hardware Company, founded in 1906 by B. B. Moeur, M. E. Curry and George L. Compton, was the most long-lived tenant in the building, operating until 1976. The Curry family contributed greatly to the community over the years; M. E. Curry's twin sons, John Jr. and Ed Jr., operated the hardware store after their father died. Ed served in the state legislature from 1932-1940 and as a member of the Arizona National Guard for 20 years. John served on the Tempe City Council from 1940-1948 and was a volunteer firefighter from 1922-1973. Curry Elementary School was named after John for his contributions to the city.

Calendar

City Council Meetings

The April/May schedule
for Tempe City Council meetings

April 2, 2009

Special CIP Work Session 3 p.m.

April 9, 2009

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

April 16, 2009

Special O&M Budget Review
Session - 3 p.m.

April 23, 2009

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

May 7, 2009

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting
& Special Budget Meeting
(Truth in Taxation)

May 14, 2009

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting
(adoption of Tentative Budget, adoption of CIP)

May 14, 2009

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting
(adoption of Tentative Budget, adoption of CIP)

Meetings are aired live on Tempe 11
and the Internet at

www.tempe.gov/tempe11.

City Council meetings are held in
the Council Chambers at City Hall,
31 E. Fifth St. Agendas are posted
24 hours before each meeting outside the Coun-
cil Chambers and on the second floor of City
Hall. Meetings are subject to change. Confirm
dates and times with the City Clerk's Office,
480-350-8241 or on the
Web site at www.tempe.gov/clerk.

Tempe City Council

Hugh Hallman, Mayor

Shana Ellis, Vice Mayor

P. Ben Arredondo, Councilmember

Mark W. Mitchell, Councilmember

Joel Navarro, Councilmember

Onnie Shekerjian, Councilmember

Corey Woods, Councilmember

Charlie Meyer, City Manager

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To contact the Mayor and Council,
call 480-350-8110.

City of Tempe
31 E. 5th St., Tempe, AZ 85281
www.tempe.gov

News you can use

Tempe renews free youth transit passes

On May 11, the City of Tempe transportation program, Tempe in Motion, will begin issuing new transit passes to current and new participants of the Tempe Youth Free Transit Pass program. The new passes are valid July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. The program allows youth ages six to 18, who live in Tempe, free rides on all Valley Metro bus routes and METRO light rail. A parent or guardian must accompany the youth and bring the youth's birth certificate when registering. Registration will be held at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road, on May 30, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Passes are also available at the Tempe Transit Store, 200 E. Fifth St. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. For information, call 480-858-2350 or visit www.tempe.gov/tim. For transit routes and schedules, call 602-253-5000 or visit www.valleymetro.org.

14th annual Women in Business Conference and Trade Show

The Tempe Chamber hosts the 14th annual Women in Business Conference and Trade Show on Thursday, May 21, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Buttes Resort, 2000 Westcourt Way. Celebrate success, learn from powerful speakers, enjoy an awards luncheon and visit a variety of trade show exhibits. Jay Parry, President and Chief Operating Officer of the WNBA Phoenix Mercury will be featured as a keynote speaker. The Business Woman of the Year Award will be presented at the luncheon as well. For information and tickets, visit www.tempechamber.org, or call 480-967-7891.

Memorial Day celebration

Celebrate Memorial Day with an evening of entertainment and music from 4-9 p.m. on Monday, May 25, at Tempe Beach Park. Bring lawn chairs and blankets and listen to live patriotic music performed by the Academy Drum and Bugle Corps, Corona del Sol's Steel Drum Band and the Arizona Wind Ensemble. The free family event will include food, games, auctions and raffles. For more information, visit www.arizonaacademy.org.

Tempe Community Foundation seeks assistance

Tempe Community Council, the city's human services arm, established the Tempe Community Foundation to provide a sustainable endowment for current and long-term human service needs. To support the programs and organizations that help and enrich our community, please consider an annual or planned gift to the Tempe Community Foundation, an affiliate fund of the Arizona Community Foundation. To make a donation, call 480-858-2322 or visit www.tempecommunityfoundation.org.

Tempe high school summer school registration

The Tempe Union High School District's first summer session is May 27 to June 18, and the second session is June 22 to July 15. Classes are held at Marcos De Niza and Desert Vista high schools. Registration is available at all of the high school guidance offices and payment can be made at the bookstores. Visit www.tuhsd.k12.az.us and click on "Summer School" on the home page.

Fall school registration underway

The Tempe Elementary School District is registering students for the 2009-10 school year. Registration for in-district and out-of-district students in kindergarten through eighth grade takes place weekdays at each school. For more information, call Janice Berryhill at 480-730-7305 or visit www.tempeschools.org/enroll.

Walk-In Wednesdays

Shake off the stress of the week as singer/songwriter Walt Richardson headlines open mic performances on Wednesdays through May at the Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway. Come early for appetizers; entertainment is 7-11 p.m. Admission is free. Musicians and poets are invited to drop in. All ages are welcome. For information on the Tempe Center for the Arts, visit www.tempe.gov/TCA. For information on Richardson, visit www.waltrichardsonmusic.com.